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Frederick County Health Department

# *News Release*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**OCTOBER 20, 2011**

## **NATIONAL DRUG TAKE BACK DAY EVENTS SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29**

**FREDERICK, MD --** On Saturday, October 29, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., local law enforcement agencies and community partners will take part in National Prescription Drug Take Back Day events across the county to offer the Frederick community an opportunity to safely dispose any unused or expired medications in a safe and environmentally friendly manner. This event, coordinated by the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) and local law enforcement offices, addresses a vital public safety and public health issue that affects individuals and communities across the nation.

More than seven million Americans currently abuse prescription drugs, according to the 2009 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration's National Survey on Drug Use and Health. Each day approximately 2,500 teens use prescription drugs to get high for the first time according to the Partnership for a Drug Free America. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends,

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including the home medicine cabinet.

Previous DEA-sponsored “Take Back Day” events included the participation of nearly 4,000 law enforcement agencies and collected nearly 309 tons of medication. “Events like this should serve as a reminder of the potential harm that may be sitting in our very own medicine cabinets,” states Todd Crum, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Supervisor with the Frederick County Health Department. “When misused, these well-intended products can have devastating outcomes,” Crum continues.

Local law enforcement agencies including the Frederick Police Department, the Thurmont Police Department, the Maryland Natural Resources Police, and the Ft. Detrick Police Department, have set up collection sites and will be operating drug take back collection efforts around Frederick County. These collections sites include:

- **Harry Grove Stadium** from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
21 Stadium Drive, Frederick, MD 21703
- **Tasker’s Chance Community Center** (Pool House) from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.  
100 Burgess Hill Way, Frederick, MD 21702
- **Homewood at Crumland** from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon  
7407 Willow Road, Frederick, MD 21702
- **Walmart (Rt. 26)** from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m.  
1811 Monocacy Boulevard, Frederick, MD 21701
- **Thurmont Police Department Headquarters** from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
800 East Main Street, Thurmont, MD 21788
- **Natural Resources Police–Echo Lake Office** from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
2011 Monument Road, Myersville, MD 21773

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- **Fort Detrick Police Department** (for those with base access only)  
1405 Porter Street, Frederick, MD 21702 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
1510 Porter Street, Frederick, MD 21702 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Residents are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to safely discard your unwanted and expired medications. The following items may be dropped off at one of the drop-off sites: prescription and over-the-counter medications, medical samples, pet medications, and medicated ointments and lotions. Participants may dispose of their medications in its original container and are encouraged to remove any identifying information from the prescription label.

For information about the City of Frederick drop-off sites, please contact OFC. Rebecca Carrado at 301-600-6236; for the Thurmont site, please contact Chief Greg Eyler at 301-271-0905; and for the Ft. Detrick site, please contact LT. David Stealey at 301-619-2770. For additional information about the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day initiative, please visit [http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug\\_disposal/takeback/index.html](http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/index.html) .

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